

# Children's Newspaper

Every Wednesday—Threepence

FOUNDED BY ARTHUR MEE

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## End of the Great Log Drive

THE biggest log drive in the world was recently completed on the St Maurice River in Quebec, where 55 million logs have been floated downstream. They will be turned into pulp at Canada's newsprint "capital" of Three Rivers to make 320 million newspaper pages.

The logs were cut last winter around the shores of James Bay, which form part of Hudson Bay, and then transported by snow-truck trains to the frozen headwaters of the St Maurice River.

The log-drive season was late this year as only a few weeks ago did the ice move out of the river. When it did hundreds of men who live in the river valley went into action.

### Log Jumping

Many of these log-drivers use cant-hooks and pike-poles, jumping from log to log just as their ancestors did 300 years ago when logging began under the first French settlers in Canada. But today's drivers also have bulldozer boats, special sluices where the wood can by-pass power stations, and machines that sort out logs owned by different companies.

The men themselves live in floating bunkhouses and eat in floating kitchens, and each day the houseboats and kitchens used by the men who are responsible for moving 20 per cent of Canada's pulpwood to mills are tied to launches and hauled downstream.

## IUUA AAIWA

WITH long titles for organisations we have become familiar with the use of first letters for the full name. One of the longest printed in this country was seen recently when a deputation from the International Union of United Automobile, Aircraft and Agricultural Implement Workers of America visited the Midlands.

## PIGEON POST

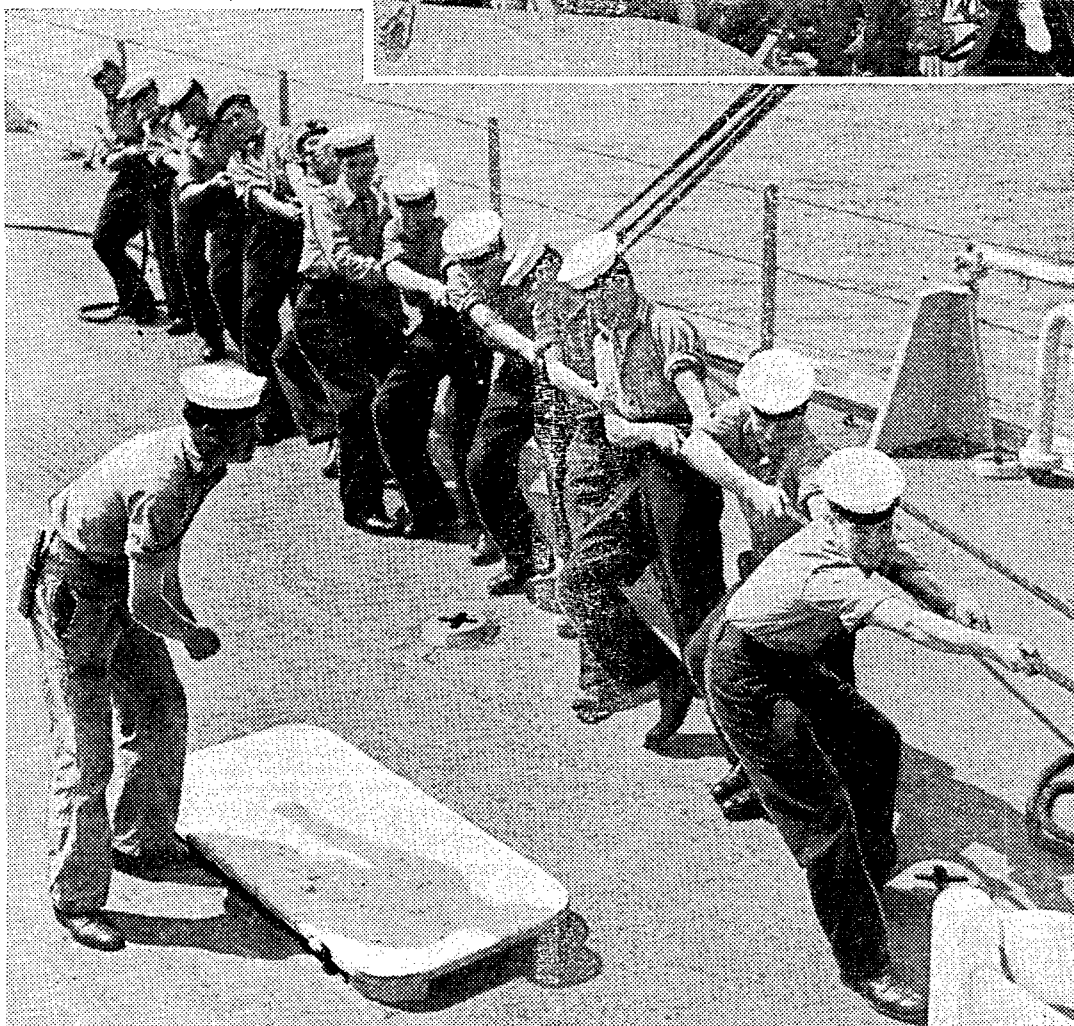
TWICE the Sports Day at Ashford South Secondary Girls' School (Kent) had been postponed because of bad weather. In her eagerness for her parents to attend the sports, Heather Buckingham was taking no chances.

When the great day seemed finally to have dawned she took with her to school a couple of homing pigeons from her home at Bilsington, a few miles away. When all was set fair for the sports she released the birds, so giving her parents their summons to the event.

## THE NAVY'S HERE!



The crew of a US destroyer on a good will visit to Eastbourne acted as hosts to 120 children. Here are some of the guests sitting astride the guns.



Above, RNVR ratings hauling on a davit guy while working derricks. Left, a game of hockey on the flight deck of a British aircraft-carrier.

## Those School Dinners

A BALLOT has been held at Humphrey Perkin's School at Barrow-on-Soar, Leicestershire, to find out which are the most popular items in the dinner menu. Some 16 main dishes, 12 vegetables, and 30 sweets were listed, and pupils were asked to name ten of each in order of preference.

Of the 430 pupils who voted, 260 gave first place to cheese pie. Of the vegetables, potatoes in any form were most popular, and cabbage was not widely favoured. Fruit flan topped the sweet course with 158 votes, and stewed figs and Bakewell tart received only one vote apiece.

Pupils were also asked to write down suggestions for improvement. Half the school wanted ice-cream as an extra, and twenty boys said "We want more." Another boy wanted roast turkey and Christmas pudding. The dinner costs 6d!

## CATERPILLAR COLUMN

MILLIONS of tent caterpillars, in a column half-a-mile wide and several miles long, descended upon the Meach Lake district, near Ottawa. After stripping the leaves from most of the trees in the area the column continued on its way.

## AND THEN THEY ALL JOINED IN!

FILM directors are resourceful people.

In Alexandria Township, the big native suburb near Johannesburg, a street scene was being filmed and it was necessary to have a crowd of Bantus in pursuit of a thief. But the good people of Alexandria could not be persuaded to join in.

So one morning, when the main street of Alexandria was crowded with shoppers and everybody was busy, a sudden

cry of "Stop thief!" was heard.

A young African was seen to jump over a wall with a wad of banknotes in his hand; and immediately the entire street gave chase. Shopkeepers dashed from their shops, leaving customers unattended; a barber and lathered customers joined in.

But just as the "thief" was about to be caught, a European shouted into a megaphone "Cut!" The film director had got the scene he wanted!



# Helping the Colonies to Help Themselves

A BRIEF announcement by the Colonial Development Corporation, a short while ago, told of the start of a new irrigation and general development scheme in Swaziland in Africa at a cost of two million pounds. Many of us may not stop to think about the significance of such announcements; yet although unsensational they are most important, for they reflect real progress in the development of the most needy and dependent part of our Commonwealth—the Colonies.

The progress of this big group is, of course, of utmost importance not only to Britain and to the Colonies themselves but also to the world at large. Already by their combined size and population (2,000,000 square miles and 65,000,000 people), and their large, though still mostly unexploited, resources the British Colonies rank as an important factor in international trade.

There cannot be any doubt that their progress, mainly due

to Great Britain's help, has in the past years been very remarkable. In 1945 Parliament voted £120,000,000 to be used during the following ten years for all forms of development and welfare work. Three years later Parliament set up a Colonial Development Corporation empowered to borrow up to £110,000,000 from the Treasury to help in carrying out various economic projects. At the same time the Overseas Food Corporation was set up to carry out food production schemes.

The way in which the vast sums given to colonial development schemes are being spent shows that a lot of thought has been given to all fundamental problems of colonial welfare.

## Ten-Year Plan

One of the most important items of expenditure is on education, especially technical and university education, which few colonies can provide unaided. Then comes research into possibilities of development and surveys of natural resources.

On this solid foundation is built a Ten-Year plan for each of the colonial territories. This means that before embarking on a development scheme each territory must first learn what its possibilities are. So far 23 plans have been approved at a cost of over £200,000,000 which comes from the British Treasury and local taxes.

Side by side with this Government-sponsored work are the schemes of the Colonial Development Corporation. It is worth noting that this Corporation acts, not like a Government Department, but like a large business organisation. Yet the Corporation can act where ordinary business firms would hesitate to invest money because of the greater risk involved. If we add to these schemes the help of hundreds of British experts who act as advisors to the Colonial Office, and the benefits from the Marshall Plan, a fairly full picture emerges of what is being done for the Colonial Empire.

## Students Encouraged

It must not be thought, however, that these schemes are concerned only with developing the economic side of our Colonies. In Britain's great work overseas the individual plays as important a role as in Britain itself. Great progress has been made in fighting tropical diseases, especially malaria and the sleeping sickness. Education in the Colonies, where there are now eleven schools of university standard, and admission of Colonial students to British universities are looked upon as the best way of providing doctors, lawyers, and other experts of whom the Colonies are extremely short.

Thus new hope is rising for many millions of people living under the protection of Britain.

# School Athletes at Port Sunlight

ONE of the most important of the season's junior sports meetings will take place next Saturday (July 22), when the Schools Athletic Association holds its annual championships at Port Sunlight.

Young champions of thirty-two of our counties will be there contesting all athletic events except the pole vault and the hop, step, and jump. Events are classified into three age groups—under-15, 15-17, and 17-19; and, of course, all competitors attend Senior schools under the State.

Every boy and girl competing at Port Sunlight next Saturday will be out to win, not merely for personal honour, but for the honour and credit of school and county; and judging from some of the performances in the recent county championships, many records may be broken. A Hampshire boy in the under-15 group has returned 21 feet 7 inches for the long jump; several intermediate milers have achieved 4½ minutes—a grand time—and one of Yorkshire's Senior representatives has run the 100 yards in 10.6 seconds.

Watch the record-breakers, for they are likely to be AAA champions in the future.

# NEWS FROM EVERYWHERE

## SCOUTS IN TRANSIT

To help the large number of Scouts from all over the world who pass through London during the summer on their way to and from camps, a Scout Transit Camp has been set up at Scout Park, Wood Green, with nightly accommodation for more than a hundred boys.

Workmen excavating at Balby, near Doncaster, discovered wooden drains said to be 500 years old, but in almost perfect condition.

There is now one licensed radio to about every four people in Australia. During the last twelve months 2,010,000 licences were issued—100,000 more than in the previous year and 500,000 more than in 1946.

New Zealand is to spend £400,000 on developing Harewood Airport, Christchurch, which will be used for the proposed regular air service to Melbourne, Australia.

Britain's steel production in June was at the rate of 16,249,000 tons a year—the highest ever for that month. The total output for the first six months of the year was 8,309,000 tons—an all-time record.

## HAPPY BAND

The Vancouver Boys' Band are touring Britain and playing in 17 cities before going to the Continent, where, among other engagements, they will perform before the Dutch Royal Family.

The capacity of the library of the Royal Society of Medicine, the largest medical library in Europe, is to be almost doubled, at a cost of £275,000. Books are being added at the rate of 4000 a year, and by 1975 it will probably hold 250,000 volumes.

Fifty-six American students and teachers are making a two-month flight round the world.

Four Guiders from Cyprus are in England for a month's training before going to Our Chalet, the International Guide Training Centre in Switzerland.

Six Indo-Portuguese ivory chairs in Chippendale style were recently sold in London for £150. They are said to be part of a set given by Warren Hastings to Queen Charlotte in 1764.

The English native record for the 1½ miles, set up by D. G. Wilson over five years ago, was beaten by four-tenths of a second by Wilson and H. A. Olney. They finished so close, with Wilson slightly in the lead, that the same time of 6 minutes 46.2 seconds was returned for both.

## Generous New Zealand

A public appeal for the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund is being made in New Zealand. By the sacrifice of a day's earnings by individuals it is hoped to raise £500,000 to add to the £100,000 recently granted by the New Zealand Government.

New Zealand is now regarded as the grass-seed nursery of the Empire. In the last ten years the Dominion's export of grass seeds has increased from 2274 tons to 8742 tons. Before 1910, New Zealand regularly imported all types of grass seed.

The Norwegian State Ballet will visit England for a short tour, beginning at Harrogate on September 4.

## SWEDISH JAMBOREE

A thousand Boy Scouts from 15 countries will camp with 10,000 Swedish Scouts at a Jamboree at Tyresö, near Stockholm, between July 21 and July 31.

Tests of an American F-80 jet fighter fitted with magnesium alloy wings have been successfully carried out. Because the reduced weight enables more fuel to be carried, the plane's range was increased by 30 per cent.

The little market town of East Harling, in Norfolk, has just celebrated the 500th anniversary of the rebuilding of its church by local benefactors, Lady Anne Herling, Sir William Chamberlain, and Sir Robert Wingfield.

Budge Patty of America won the Men's Singles Championship at Wimbledon, beating Frank Sedgman of Australia in the final. Louise Brough, U.S.A., won the Women's title and, with E. Sturgess of South Africa, the Mixed Doubles; with Mrs Dupont, U.S.A., she also won the Women's Doubles. The Men's Doubles was won by A. K. Quist and J. Bromwich of Australia.



Children of Korea

The food problem grows acute as war sweeps down the Korean peninsula. Here we see children picking vegetables in a field.

## FILLING THEIR POCKETS

TEN fils is not quite so much as it sounds; for a fil is not a tuck-shop orgy, but one of the Kingdom of Jordan's first coins, recently issued.

The basis of the new currency is the Jordanian dinar. This is an old Arab name for a gold coin, and is related to the Latin denarius from whence comes our "d" for pence. The new dinar equals one pound sterling and is divided into 1000 fils.

The dinars will be in notes printed by a British firm; they show a picture of King Abdullah.

The new coins have been designed by an Arab artist and struck at the Royal Mint. Those of 20 fils, 50 fils, and 100 fils are in cupro-nickel with milled edges, and those of one, five, and ten fils are in bronze with plain edges. On one side is a crown with Arabic lettering, and on the other there is English lettering.

Let us hope that Arab boys' and girls' dreams of pocket-money will be "ful-filled"!

## Bus Television

Television sets have been installed on buses making the 500-mile run from Hollywood to San Francisco.

Two Londoners, W. A. H. Kahn and J. A. Karan, both broke the British out-and-return gliding record for single-seater gliders recently. They flew 141 miles—from Redhill, Surrey, to Netheravon, Wiltshire, and back—in Olympia sailplanes.

Kilvrough Manor, near Swansea, is now open. This was bought and equipped from part of the £95,000 given to the National Association of Girls' Clubs and Mixed Clubs by the South African Aid to Britain Fund for holiday centres. Part of the building has stood for 900 years.

A Garden Party and Exhibition is to be held on Wednesday, July 26, from 3 to 9.30 p.m., at The Holme, York Gate, Regent's Park, London, to help pay for equipment for the Princess Tsahai Memorial Hospital at Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, which is shortly to be opened. Admission will be 2s 6d.

## Midnight Cricket

AT this time of the year places in the extreme North of Scotland have more hours of daylight than farther South, but seldom has a cricket match been played at such a late hour as at Thurso recently.

Two teams, called Thurso East and Thurso West, began their game at 9.15. Toward half-past ten, West were all out for 30 runs. The East began their innings, a white ball being used, and the winning hit was scored just as a nearby clock chimed midnight.

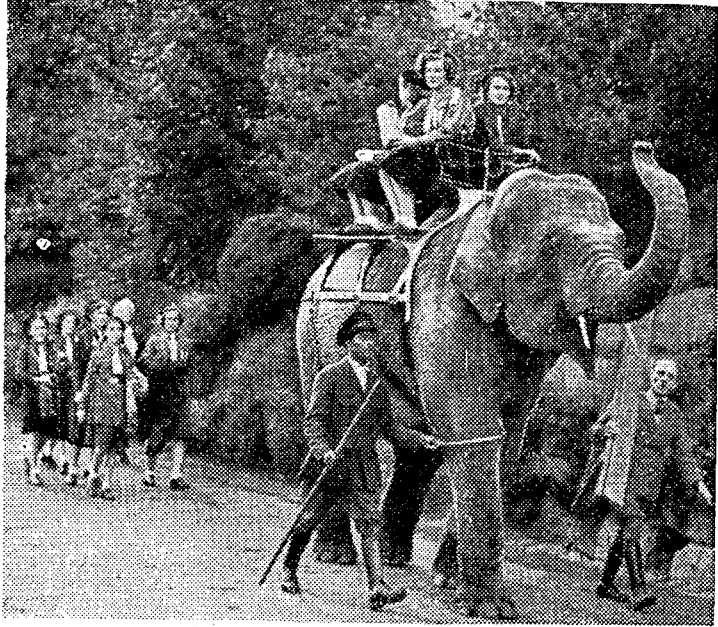
No artificial light was used, and the match was played under the normal rules of cricket.

## In the Footsteps of Linnaeus

FIVE hundred leading botanists from many countries, including fifty experts from Britain, are taking part in the seventh International Botanical Congress at Stockholm. The subjects for discussion include the naming of plants, their growth and distribution, plant-breeding, and plant diseases.

After the congress the members will embark on five expeditions to collect specimens. One party is going to Lapland, and will follow the route taken by Linnaeus early in the eighteenth century.





### Elephant Express?

Messages of friendship from Girl Guides all over Britain have been arriving at the World Guide Conference at Oxford by land, sea, and air. A scroll from Fraserburgh, Aberdeenshire, for South African delegates, was carried part of the way by elephant.

### AN "OLD CROCK" OF THE AIR

A BLACKBURN monoplane of the year 1912 is to fly again at the Air Races and Display at Sherburn-in-Elmet, Yorkshire, on July 22, and watching it fly will be Captain Norman Blackburn, who helped to build it when he was a 15-year-old apprentice of his father's firm, of which he is now joint managing director.

This old veteran is now one of the "Shuttleworth Collection" of old aircraft, and was discovered last year stored away in a barn on a Lincolnshire farm where it had remained since a crash in 1914!

Now, with its 50 h.p. Gnome rotary engine, it will show its paces with modern streamlined jet-propelled monsters.

### IN CHARACTER

BLACKHEATH, London, bordered with dignified old houses, is endeavouring to retain its Georgian character.

The Ministries of Health and Town and Country Planning have appointed Professor A. E. Richardson, famous authority on Georgian architecture, to design buildings in that style for erection in Paragon Place, pre-war site of many Georgian houses, which was badly blitzed.

### P C SWIMMING CHAMPION

RONALD ROBERTS, a South London policeman, has plunged into the swimming limelight during the last few weeks. In one week he beat English international Pat Kendall and won the Surrey 100 yards championship, and three days later went straight from his beat to swim for the Metropolitan Police in a team match and set up a new 100-yards record for the Bermondsey Baths.

P C Roberts has been a swimmer since boyhood, but not until recently, at the age of 27, has he produced the form that makes him one of England's brightest hopes for the next Olympic Games.

### HISTORY IN THE BALANCE

THE National Union of Scale-makers have issued an account of their history in the last 40 years, and have added some information about the ancient craft of scalemaking. There are still in existence weights used about 7000 B.C. and an Egyptian balance dated about 5000 B.C. The equal-armed beam has been used by man for at least 7000 years.

One famous firm of scalemakers in Great Britain has a history going back to 1715.

### CASTLE FOR A SCHOOL?

ABOUT 300 years ago, a few men in the Huntingdonshire village of Kimbolton set aside land and property to maintain a school for the children. That school has grown a good deal since then, and even the big building in which it is now housed is inadequate; so the school governors are negotiating for the purchase of Kimbolton Castle, historic seat of the Dukes of Manchester.

Queen Catherine of Aragon spent her last years in Kimbolton Castle, which was part of her dowry. When she died, Henry VIII gave the castle to Sir Richard Wingfield, and in the 18th century the whole building was restored by Sir John Vanbrugh for the first Duke of Manchester.

If the negotiations go through, therefore, Kimbolton School will have a most historic home as well as one of the most imposing in the country.

### ROOF ON, FLAG UP

THE Danish colours, a white cross on a red background, have been flying above an almost finished bungalow at Dore, near Sheffield. The owner hoisted the flag in honour of his Danish wife, in whose country they still carry out the custom of hoisting a wreath of flowers as well as the flag when the roof goes on a building. The bungalow itself is in Danish style.

### MESSAGE FOR A.D. 2000

IN A.D. 2000 the C.N. will be able to report an interesting ceremony at Northampton; for in that year a casket which has just been locked is due to be opened again. It contains a message which will be read to the Boys' Brigade of Northampton in fifty years' time, as well as some records of their present activities.

The casket was locked as part of the golden jubilee celebrations of the battalion, and the key was turned by the Duke of Gloucester.

### HOLDERS OF ROYAL WARRANTS

THE list has just been published of the tradesmen who hold warrants of appointment to the King, issued by the Keeper of His Majesty's Privy Purse or the Department of the Master of the Household. It is a long and interesting list, for it includes not only those who supply the Royal Family but also those who maintain the palaces, estates, and staffs.

It includes the manufacturer of refractory cements, the maker of ladies' fans, the firm which supplies the royal household with pork sausages, the Manx concern which sends the kippers, the purveyors of turtle soup and potted shrimps, and the London company which sends the crackers at Christmas.

### GOLDILOCKS, M.P.

WHEN Parliament had an all-night sitting some time ago Mr Morrison, the Leader of the House, had a bed made up in his private room. But when he went there for a short shut-eye, he found a Labour M.P. already in it. "Who's been sleeping in my bed?" (or words to that effect) said a tired voice—and Goldilocks, M.P., beat a hasty retreat.

### THE THIRD TEST

WITH the score one match all, the third Test match should attract record crowds this week to Trent Bridge, Nottingham.

Although the West Indies have been meeting England in Test cricket since 1928, this will be the first encounter at Trent Bridge, and if the weather is fine, the wonderful West Indies batsmen will be in their element there, on a pitch always considered a batsman's paradise.

### BARNEY MEETS A LION

BARNEY BESTER, aged 18, who lives with his father on a Southern Rhodesian farm, heard from natives, not long ago, that a lion had killed two head of cattle in a valley nearby.

The young man had never before seen a lion outside a circus, but he went off with some friends, armed with rifles, to try to settle accounts with the cattle-killing lion.

Barney, no doubt, reflected on the strange adventure his father had once had with seven lions. Mr Bester had been looking for a stray mule when the seven lions who had killed the mule all rushed at him at once. He was completely unarmed and could only stand and watch them. They came to within 30 yards of

him, bounded about like big cats, and then ran away into the bush.

It must have been Mr Bester's standing still that puzzled the lions and saved his life, so Barney resolved to stand his ground, too, should he be the one to find the lion. He was!

On reaching the valley it was Barney who came upon a lion hiding in a bush. The animal roared and charged at him. Barney felt sure that if he ran he would be killed. "I had no intention of becoming lion's meat and I fired automatically," he said. The lion was killed instantly. It was an enormous specimen, ten feet six inches from nose to tail-tip, and it is destined to become a rug on the floor of Barney's home.

### MAKING AND SEEING

A NOVEL idea, designed to encourage children to learn more about the details of their own locality, has been tried out at the Dempsey Street School, Stepney, in the heart of London's dockland.

The Docks and Inland Waterways Executive have helped in the scheme, and the children have constructed a table-top model of the borough to a scale of 24 inches to the mile. The River Thames, the maze of docks, and the Regent's Canal are all clearly depicted in colour; and, to supplement this visual aid, children have visited the docks and heard talks by an expert on the ships and their cargoes.

The young visitors have seen, too, how the river and docks system of London are connected by inland waterways to the Midlands and the industrial North.

### BRITAIN'S NEW RAILWAY

THE building of a new railway in Britain is a rare event indeed in our day, but one was recently started in Nottinghamshire, and is expected to be finished before the end of next year. It is a seven-mile branch line from near Hucknall to a new colliery at Calverton. Earthworks, culverts, and bridges will be constructed and fencing carried out.

It will be a double-track line capable of carrying the colliery's total output of over one million tons of coal traffic a year.

### IN MEMORY OF GEORGE ELIOT

TWENTY-FOUR-YEAR-OLD Mary Braendle, a horticulturist, and 27-year-old Ronald Sims, an architect, have together won a competition for a design for memorial gardens at Nuneaton to commemorate the famous novelist George Eliot.

George Eliot, whose real name was Mary Ann Evans, was born at a farm close to Nuneaton in 1819 and lived in the district until 1841. The beautiful Warwickshire countryside here is enshrined in her books.

The memorial gardens are to be in the centre of Nuneaton and will be the town's contribution to the Festival of Britain.

### STAMP NEWS

THE city of Helsinki, capital of Finland, celebrates its 400th anniversary this year, and three new stamps mark the occasion.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA has issued two stamps in memory of authoress Bozena Nemcova, who was born 130 years ago.

A SINGLE stamp will be issued in September in honour of Southern Rhodesia's 60 years under the British flag. The design will show the heads of Queen Victoria and George VI.

OVER eleven and a half million 1949 "Health" stamps have been sold in New Zealand for the benefit of children's holiday camps.

LUXEMBOURG has issued a set of six charity stamps in honour of the children of wartime heroes and martyrs.

### GALLERY IN THE GALLERY

When boys and girls from Spring Grove County School, Huddersfield, visited The Gullery, a well-known bird sanctuary at Ravenglass, on the Cumberland coast, they were shown round by a bird-watcher, Mr Farrier, who has been doing this sort of work for 35 years. Here he is pointing out nests and eggs to the children.



## ANNIE GET YOUR GUN

THE two most popular stage musical plays for some years are *Oklahoma!* and *Annie Get Your Gun*. Both have run for many hundreds of nights in London. Both have plenty of catchy tunes and are full of high spirits and colour.

M-G-M has just filmed *Annie Get Your Gun* in Technicolor, and it makes a first-rate screen musical. The plot is at least as good as that of most musicals, and the settings are constantly changing. This is not surprising, because the story deals with the rivalry of two crack shots, both of them stars in the famous Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show.

Buffalo Bill (Col. W. F. Cody) tours America and Europe with his cowboys and Red Indians, but the best turn on his bill is Frank Butler (Howard Keel), the champion sharpshooter. Wherever the show goes, Butler offers to compete with local marksmen.

In Cincinnati, Annie Oakley (Betty Hutton) accepts Butler's challenge, and proves herself a better shot than he is. Buffalo Bill engages her and she becomes Butler's assistant, and later his



Betty Hutton as the sharp-shooting Annie Oakley

rival star. She falls in love with him, but he is very jealous of her. The film gives an excellent picture of a great road show on tour, and there is a happy ending.

Almost everything depends on the actress playing Annie Oakley, and Betty Hutton is first-class in the part. Her gradual change from a backwoods urchin to a clever and accomplished woman is really well done, and Howard Keel supports her ably in the ungrateful rôle of Frank Butler.

The music is the thing, and there are very few modern musicals which have as many haunting melodies as *Annie Get Your Gun* has. There is plenty of trick shooting and lively dancing, and the whole film is admirable entertainment, with many amusing moments.

Directed by George Sidney and produced by Arthur Freed, *Annie Get Your Gun* should draw crowds to cinemas all over Great Britain, and most of them will come to hear the clever musical score by Irving Berlin, who for forty years has been one of the very best composers of light music.



Annie among the Indians

## The Cruise of the Pathfinder

One of CN's regular contributors thought she would try this year a different kind of holiday, and sends us this account of her experiences.

It was probably having read *Coot Club* which gave Peter the idea that a holiday—even a mere half-term week-end, in his case—spent on a Thames motor cruiser was the sort of thing only Hullabaloo would contemplate. Perhaps some of you other 12-year-old sailing enthusiasts may secretly feel the same.

However, when, after leaving Oxford station just round the corner, Peter came on board *Pathfinder* by Osney Bridge, his first question was: "How does it work?"

He was intrigued to find that it had a self-starter switch, just like a car; that there was a horn for summoning lock-keepers; and that there were two gears, forward and reverse, the latter being used as the brake; and a hand throttle—in fact, a very easy set-up altogether. And navigating the boat slightly to the right of midstream, and passing oncoming craft port to port, wasn't difficult to remember either.

Going through locks, he agreed, was the trickiest part, and more so downstream. Because not only must one take care to lurk on the non-weir side, and not go aground, when waiting for the lock to open; but unless one enters at an angle and then straightens-out while momentarily putting the engine into reverse, the stream quickly swings out the stern, which can then hit other craft, before the gates are closed. However, when Peter found that by leaping ashore directly we touched-in, hitching our stern rope to the bollard first, and then playing it out gradually as the water in the lock sank, all went smoothly and he enjoyed himself more than ever.

We passed through Osney, Ifley, Sandford, Culham, and Clifton locks that first evening, stopping then because navigation must cease at sunset. That was about 13½ miles; and our average speed was about six m.p.h.

One of the most enchanting sights the next morning was the dozens of house-martins flying backwards and forwards from under Clifton Hampden bridge, where, against the grooves of the red-brick arches, they had built their mud nests.

Oddly enough, we did have a couple of Coot Clubbish adventures

ourselves during the next two days. One in reverse, as you might say. For it was not the wash of a big cabined *Margoletta* which upset the teapot all over the cucumber sandwiches, but the efforts of a sailing dinghy which jibbed too late, too near our mooring.

The other adventure was when we moored for the night on the edge of the beech woods just below Goring, and suddenly discovered a few yards upstream a moorhen's nest. It was built among a tangle of branches of a blown-into-the-stream willow. It had seven buff eggs spotted with reddish brown in it, and obviously we'd frightened the bird off. The thing was, would she return if we didn't move our boat?

We retreated to the cabin for ten minutes, then Peter reconnoitred. "Yes," he said, "she is on the nest again; and her scarlet beak shows up vividly against her dark plumage."

It must have happened in the very early morning; because when we got up the eggs had hatched. Now we saw seven sooty balls with scarlet beaks swimming frantically in her wake across the wide river, while father "Chekked" repeatedly and encouragingly from the far rushes.

Our third adventure, which might have had a serious ending, had a most amusing sequel.

Inadvertently on our last night we had moored beside a field where a herd of cows evidently took a four a.m. breakfast. Our first intimation was being awakened by a loud splash and the stern of the boat swinging out to midstream.

Peter, who was sleeping out in the cockpit, ripped open a side curtain and yelled: "Cows! They've knocked one of our mooring spikes into the river, and they'll knock the other one out in a sec!" Then, with a wriggle and a shout, he was out and along the prow; and, slipping on shore, bellowing at the inquisitive beasts, he seized the second uprooted mooring spike and its rope just in time.

So we towed the boat a little upstream and moored to a couple of willows we'd previously thought to be in too shallow water. Then we settled down to finish our sleep.

This time we were awakened by peals of laughter from Peter. He'd been lying there listening to the birds and then had heard munching again. So he had leapt up to do some more cow shooting.

But there were no cows to be seen! And then the munching began once more.

It was some time before he spotted a water vole hidden in the herbage on the bank chewing noisily at a flag stem!

## JUPITER & THE WATER-CARRIER

THE great planet Jupiter has now come into the evening sky, and may be readily recognised low in the east as soon as it becomes dark. He is much the brightest object there, writes the CN Astronomer.

Jupiter is now at a distance of 391 million miles and coming still closer during the next four weeks. After that he will begin to recede, though he will continue to be a prominent feature of the evening sky until the end of the year. He pursues a path, at present retrograde, through the widely-distributed stars of the Zodiac constellation of Aquarius.

This constellation, usually so difficult to find, may now be identified easily through the presence of Jupiter, whose present position in relation to the few chief stars of Aquarius is shown on the accompanying star-map. This is on a very small scale, so it must be borne in mind that the stars are very far apart.

It will be seen that Jupiter is between the stars Alpha and Delta, with Beta some way to the right of Alpha. But this arrangement will not continue, as Jupiter is just now travelling to the right. The distinctive group of four stars, including Gamma, are of only fourth magnitude.

Aquarius, the Water-Carrier—popularly known as the Man with the Watering-Pot—is the eleventh constellation of the Zodiac, and is of very great antiquity. Its importance and interest is much greater than its widely-separated stars would suggest.

Old legends associate it and the flow of water from its celestial symbol, the Pot or Urn, with

the rise of the Nile and the coming of the rainy season. Evidence of an even greater antiquity is provided from Babylonian, where carvings have been found showing what is evidently Aquarius, a man pouring water from an urn to provide a celestial stream for another constellation which follows, that of the Fishes.

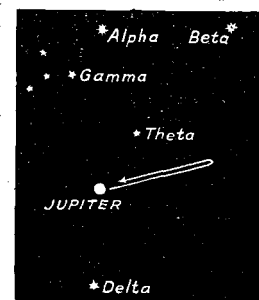
This curious representation of Aquarius has continued through the centuries down to the present time—certainly for at least 5000 years. Indeed, the constellation probably originated in prehistoric times, when the Zodiac appears to have been first formed by the early Chaldeans.

The two brightest stars of Aquarius, Alpha and Beta, are singularly similar to one another, both being of the same type as our Sun, that is Class G. Although they are at an immense distance from each other, they are both about the same distance from us and our Sun, that is 407 light-years' journey.

They are very much larger suns than ours, Alpha (also known by its ancient name Sadalmelik) radiating about 700 times more light and heat than our Sun, while Beta (whose ancient name was Sadalsund) radiates 800 times more light and heat than our Sun.

The very much smaller sun Gamma, which appears as one of the four fainter stars to the left of Alpha, is only 51 light-years distant. It is these four stars which represent the Urn or Pot from which Aquarius is pouring the stream of water which spreads southwards to minister to the Southern Fish—Piscis Australis—which is represented by its splendid star Fomalhaut.

G. F. M.



The present position of Jupiter, the bent arrow indicating his path for the next six months.

## The Desert Locust is Swarming Again

SWARMS of the desert locusts are now escaping into Ethiopia and the Sudan in spite of international conferences on locust control, months of preparation, and constant intelligence reports.

It has been known for a whole year that locusts have been more active than usual in areas bordering the Red Sea, and anti-locust teams have been using the new insecticide Gammexane to exterminate swarms along the coast of Somaliland. The area of operations must now be extended in an effort to stop the escaping swarms breeding, as plagues of locusts might otherwise sweep through the more fertile regions of Africa, with dire effects on the crops.

The exceptional drought of a year ago encouraged the desert locusts in their solitary existence

so that they became common over a much wider area, and then, as seasons changed, they would become crowded in the arid regions where they are at home. Crowding would then create the urge to swarm.

The desert locust enjoys hot dry weather, and prospers in fertile regions during the dry weather immediately following the rains, when there is ample herbage for growing insects to feed upon. Wet weather and a fly looking rather like a house fly are their worst natural enemies.

When wet and humid conditions prevail the adult locusts become infected with a fungus, the thread-like mycelium of which permeates their bodies. Meanwhile, they crawl to the tips of twigs and die.

As the swarms travel, perhaps forty miles in a day, they may

become separated by hills into several smaller swarms with the sexes in varying proportions. The tendency is for them to join up again and perhaps return to their old breeding ground, thus encouraging their enemy the fly to increase as well. The mother locust lays her eggs in a hole in the ground and covers them with froth, after which the flies lay their larvae in the egg-masses before the froth has time to harden, and thus destroy up to 90 per cent of the eggs. It may take several years for the natural controls to take effect, and meanwhile widespread damage to crops may occur.

A flying swarm may cover an area 20 miles long by five miles broad, and when they lay their eggs the soil may be peppered with buried egg masses an inch or two apart.



## OTHER PEOPLE'S JOBS—Alan Ivimey visits a Cambridge laboratory under construction to learn about the work of...

**B**UILDINGS, like bodies, need to have a skeleton or frame if they are going to stand up; and the man who puts these steel skeletons together is the Steel Erector.

So the other day I had a date with a steel erector.

It was down at Cambridge, where they happen to be putting up a big new five-storey building for the University Engineering Laboratories. When I arrived the frame was about two-thirds up.

The site was a muddy and gravelly sort of pit with the rusty rectangles of steel frame going 70 feet up into the air, while the ground around was cumbered with steel girders, baulks of timber, and wire ropes, with a big concrete trench running right across which would soon be taking the pipes and machinery for a boiler room. Out of his little wooden hut, at the side, came Mr Porter, the Foreman, an old Royal Navy man who has been putting up steel frames for 30 years.

ONE of the things the steel erector has to worry about is keeping his frame absolutely



Standing on the lower flange of a girder

working on one of the base stanchions which a crane had just lowered into place. That stanchion weighed 1 ton 15 cwts, and between it and its concrete pier Joe was laying a packing of steel strips. These are from one-half to one-sixteenth of an inch thick, and by adjusting them the stanchion is made to stand absolutely upright. Eventually these strips get embedded, with the base of the stanchion, in a sort of concrete collar which secures it to the pier. But, meanwhile, as the rest of the frame goes up, further adjustment can be made to the base stanchions, if necessary, by levering them with crowbars; and wire ropes are used to pull the various sections of the frame into "true," and keep them so. All the verticals are tested by plumb-line.

As well as this work, the erector has to know the various knots—barrel ties, racking ties, and square ties—used in ordinary and wire ropes and how to make chains fast, too. Men's lives depend on this being done properly. He also has to know how to make up a derrick from a baulk of timber and a pulley.

**G**IRDERS and stanchions arrive already drilled, with the holes for fastening them securely together where they overlap. The fastening is done by bolting or riveting steel plates, also drilled to correspond, on either side of the overlap; and the erector's job is to get up there and fix them.

He carries quite a lot of tools with him too. He needs to have both hands free and so he carries

the tools on a belt of his own providing. To the belt is hung a leather "frog" (rather like the frog in which an infantryman carries his bayonet), and he cuts this out himself. In the frog he'll probably have three or four spanners, a hand hammer and three stout steel pins called drifts. A drift is used to take the place, temporarily, of a bolt or rivet while the fastening is being done, or sometimes to knock into the already-drilled holes and make them exactly right for the particular size of bolt or rivet the erector is using. These tools are his own property and he buys them through his Trade Union.

**H**ow to climb a stanchion and walk a girder are just two of the things a steel erector has to learn. He can either go up the outside of a stanchion, by wrapping his legs round it as in climbing a rope, or he can go up the inside by pulling himself up with his hands and then pressing outwards with his knees against the flanges. For horizontal progress from one part of the frame to another he walks the girders.

"He just uses ordinary shoes," said Mr Porter, "but they should be old ones. In wet weather, when the steel is slippery, instead of walking the girders he straddles and works himself along in a sitting-down position; or he can walk on the bottom flange, gripping the top with his calves. Of course, in really bad weather, I don't let them go up at all. That's up to me, and I never give a man a job I couldn't or wouldn't do myself."

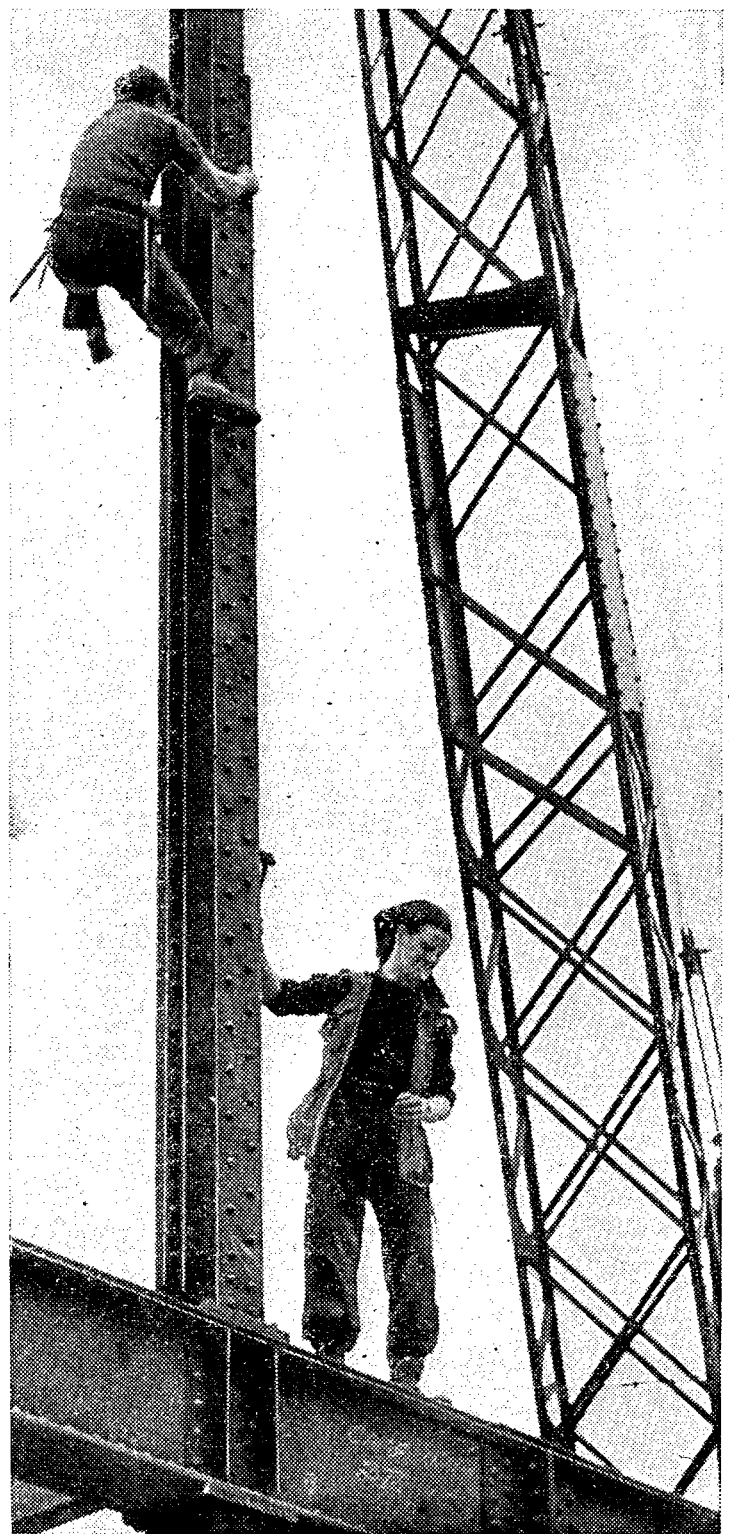
Mr Porter explained that the beginner learns this apparently giddy job by starting on girders at ground level, then at first-floor level, and so on. In any case, he said, there were safety belts for them to hook themselves on with.

**T**HE steel erector starts at about the age of 17 as a tea-boy, though officially he's called an Improver. If he has a head for heights—and this is a job in which you certainly have plenty of chances to work your way up—he gradually learns to walk a girder at any height. Then he has a go at various jobs, whose names are self-explanatory: as Slinger, for instance, as Bolter-up, Driller, and Fixer. The next stage is Charge-hand, then Setter-out, and finally Foreman—like Mr Porter; and he's had 30 years of it and can stand on his head at the top of a steel frame.

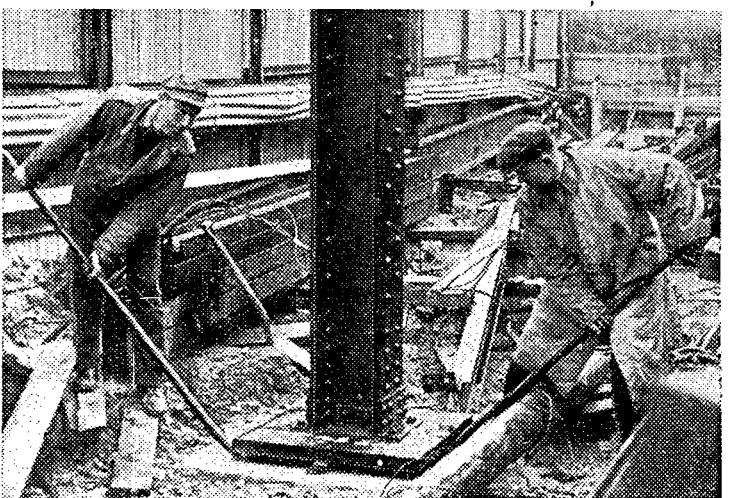
One interesting thing about him is that he remembers cinemas not by the films he's seen but by the steel frames for them which he has erected. He also specialises in finding, and remembering for future use, the best landladies in various towns. For he has to find lodgings for his team of men. And they are a team too.

**P**ERHAPS all this will give you one or two new things to think about next time you see a steel frame going up. At any rate, that's what Mr Porter did for me.

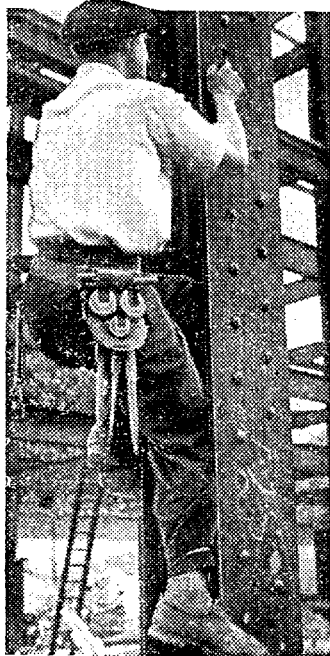
## THE STEEL ERECTOR



Climbing a stanchion with a knee and leg grip. The crane has lifted it into place



Adjusting a bottom stanchion resting on a sunk concrete pier. The steel packing can just be seen



Climbing with both legs pressing the flanges of a stanchion

erect, with each girder and stanchion in place, despite what a high wind may do before the moment for anchoring has arrived. Obviously, that frame has got to be true and right before you can put walls or floors on it.

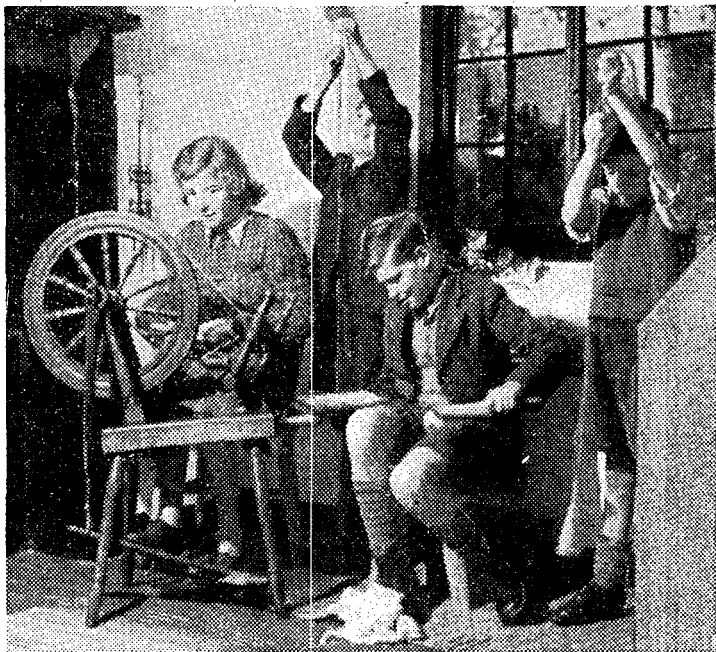
So the steel erector's job is to get the frame up and see that it won't budge. After the frame itself is up he leaves it to others to complete the building, and moves on to another job.

The whole structure, when I first saw it, was just "sitting" on the tops of a number of concrete piers sunk deep into the ground. But there was no kind of fastening between the steel and the piers—yet. And here I should mention that the upright steel units of the frame are called stanchions; the horizontal ones, girders.

I WENT across to watch the charge hand, Joe Murphy,



Mr Porter, the Foreman steel erector



### At the Spinning Wheel

In Tudor times the Cotswold village of Laverton was a centre of the wool industry, and even today almost everyone living there can spin. Here we see Joan James spinning wool sent by the children of Laverton, Australia, on a wheel once owned by Gandhi.

## The Schoolmaster Shows the Way

IN the little community of Bull Savannah, Southern Jamaica, the 2000 native inhabitants will never forget Mr C. A. Blythe, formerly the village schoolmaster, and Colonel Moxsy, a philanthropic Jamaican landowner.

Jamaica was badly hit by the great depression of the early nineteen-thirties, and as the thrifty villagers gradually exhausted their precious savings Mr Blythe grew more and more worried for their future. But he remembered reading in a Canadian magazine that there was a market for Jamaican tomatoes in Canada if they could be produced in sufficient quantities.

At this stage, in 1935, Mr Blythe approached Colonel Moxsy, who willingly came to speak to the people of Bull Savannah, and offered them tomato seeds for planting. The natives were sceptical, however, and seemed unwilling to accept the seeds from a stranger.

Nothing daunted, Mr Blythe went to each native individually, exhorting everyone to accept the colonel's offer. Reluctantly a few took the seeds and planted them. Their action proved to be the start of a flourishing industry.

When harvest time came Colonel Moxsy returned to show the people how to pick and pack the fruit, offering three-halfpence for each pound collected. The next year 25 people decided to become tomato-growers, and soon others followed.

By 1937 the experiment was an undoubted success, and with money provided by Colonel Moxsy and the Jamaican Government a packing-house, packing equipment, and power-station were installed at a cost of

£12,000. Three years later the value of the equipment was £17,500 and 800,000 lbs of tomatoes were exported.

The industry has developed to such an extent that last year the total crop amounted to 9,500,000 lbs, the area under cultivation being one hundred square miles.

In addition to developing the tomato industry, Mr Blythe has also played a big part in improving the educational standards of the people. Many of the tomato-growers were illiterate and it was necessary to teach them about the working of the scheme so that eventually they might run it themselves. This aim has now been achieved.

## CHINA CHURCH BELLS

ONE of the damaged churches in the German city of Leipzig has been reconstructed, and it has a new peal of bells—made of china.

As the picture shows, they look like inverted and elongated pudding basins, and even the largest of them is scarcely big enough to serve as a hat for the man on the right!

They are, however, made of the famous Meissen ware, and they give out notes of great sweetness and purity when they are lightly tapped with the little mechanical hammers.

How, then, is it that their diminutive chimes ring out over the city, competing with the tones of huge metal bells? The answer is that a microphone and a battery of loudspeakers amplify the sounds.

Meissen is a town on the Elbe near Dresden, where the porcelain that bears its

## Prom Nights Are Here Again

A SEASON of eight weeks of sheer delight for music-lovers begins next Saturday at the Royal Albert Hall at 7.30, opening night of the 56th series of Henry Wood Promenade Concerts.

Affectionately and universally known as the Proms, these concerts are now a time-honoured institution; indeed, a Prom-less summer is unthinkable. London has nothing to offer quite like a Prom night, and we have no doubt at all that the coming season will bring all the usual delights, as well as all the enthusiasm which audiences contribute to these concerts—a special kind of enthusiasm which is as infectious and enjoyable as children's laughter.

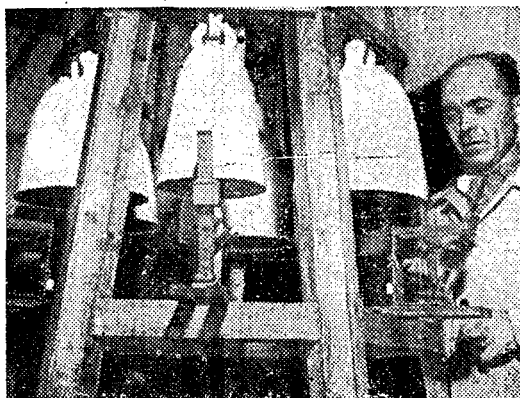
### Many Conductors

The orchestras this year are the BBC Symphony, the London Symphony, the London Philharmonic, and the BBC Opera; and the conductors are Sir Malcolm Sargent, Basil Cameron, and Stanford Robinson, with Trevor Harvey and John Hollingsworth occasionally lending a willing baton. In addition there will be a galaxy of soloists.

The programmes, needless to say, are all first-class, with Fridays dedicated as usual largely to Beethoven. Thursday, July 27, deserves special mention, for it will be devoted to Bach—a commemoration concert on the eve of his death 200 years ago.

Of the sprinkling of new works, always so eagerly awaited, special mention must be made of Arnold Bax's Pianoforte Concerto for the Left Hand, which will have its first London performance on Tuesday, July 25, the soloist will be Miss Harriet Cohen.

No-one who can get to the Royal Albert Hall during the next eight weeks should fail to do so, for to attend a Prom is a memorable experience. On with the Proms!



The new china church bells at Leipzig

## The Editor's Table

### EVER-WELCOME INVADERS

THERE will be invasion this summer in the East End of London; but it is not likely to meet with any resistance, for the invaders will be from America and Canada.

It all began in October 1947, when our friend Tubby Clayton, vicar of All Hallows, Barking-by-the-Tower, went for a six-month tour of the U.S. He went to stimulate interest in the rebuilding of this ancient church, which has connections with American history; but he also pleaded for the people of the East End who during the war had lost so much.

He had full support in this from the former American Ambassador, John Winant, and in a short time, as a living memorial to that great worker for Anglo-American friendship, a team of young Americans, mainly students from universities, volunteered to come over to carry out social service in the East End. They called themselves the Winant Volunteers.

FOR two summers parties of Winant Volunteers, including some ladies, have crossed the Atlantic and for two months have joined in a variety of forms of social service, such as helping in boys' clubs.

The value of this fine experiment has been fourfold. The visitors from the New World have brought help where it is badly needed; it has given them an opportunity to see and appreciate the splendid work already being done by social workers; it has helped them to understand something of the conditions prevailing in a part of the world which still bears the scars of war; and, above all, it has fostered friendship between the nations.

THERE are now Winant and Osler Volunteers, the latter being Canadian students from McGill University who wish to share in the work. Fifty are expected this year, and they will spend a week at Oxford before going to "action stations" in London.

### Now Is The Time

BE wise, cut off long cares  
From thy contracted span.  
E'en whilst we speak, the envious time  
Doth make swift haste away;  
Then seize the present, use thy prime,  
Nor trust another day.

Horace

### CHEERFULNESS

WHAT, indeed, does not that word "cheerfulness" imply? It means a contented spirit; it means a pure heart; it means a kind and loving disposition; it means humility and charity; it means a generous appreciation of others, and a modest opinion of self.

W. M. Thackeray

### ONE WORLD

NONE of us can afford to be indifferent to the events in Korea. Ours is a small world today and what happens in any part of it vitally affects the lives of people everywhere. No-one can say, "It is not our business."

Britain's justification for supporting the United Nations in Korea was well expressed by the Prime Minister when he said in Parliament recently:

"The world is faced by an act of naked aggression, committed against a State established by the United Nations and recognised as the lawful Government of South Korea. There could not have been a greater affront to the United Nations, and any suggestion of condoning such action would strike at the whole basis of the United Nations."

"If the United Nations is not to go the way of the League of Nations, the members must be prepared to act when the need arises, and if the peoples wish to avoid another world war, they must support their Governments in asserting the rule of law."

### Accidents at Home

EVERY day four children die in this country through accidents in their homes, reports The Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents.

Recently there have been several tragic accidents to youngsters who, left at home alone, have set fire to the house and themselves, and the Society urges parents to arrange for some responsible adult to look after the little ones during their absence.

A number of youth organisations are taking active steps to train their members to reduce home accidents; among them are the Guides, the Girls' Guildry, the Girls' Training Corps, the Girls' Life Brigade, and the St John Ambulance Brigade.

### JUST AN IDEA

As Sir Joshua Reynolds wrote, *Simplicity is an exact medium between too little and too much.*

## Under the



PETER PUCK WANTS TO KNOW

if sea shanties are houseboats

A PROFESSOR says he always has a good word to say for the cup of tea. Please?

A FOREIGN visitor says she takes people as she finds them. Where to?

SOME people are terrified of spiders. Not so terrified as spiders are of them.

THE mother of a shy daughter wants to know how she can bring her out. So



## THINGS SAID

THIS country's future lies in the production of quality goods, in our market becoming the Bond Street of the world.

Colonel Redmayne, M P

THE women of Britain are, perhaps, better prepared than those of America for their role in the post-war world, because the qualities called forth in the war are those needed to win the peace.

Mrs Roosevelt

HOLIDAY-MAKERS never seem to be disillusioned about the magical first two weeks in August, and so long as this continues there will always be overcrowding at this period.

Edward Carson,  
M P for Thanet

Boys haven't changed their essential natures. Many seem tougher, more cynical, or more sophisticated, but isn't this often just a superficial veneer, put on to ape their elders?

Lord Aberdare

## VANDALISM

THERE is a sad story from Shropshire which should be a warning to all who use beautiful places this summer.

Lord Newport, the owner of Nesscliff Hill, near Shrewsbury, has been forced to close this beauty spot because the public have been behaving badly when using it.

Broken glass, paper bags, and other refuse have littered the ground, benches have been destroyed and young trees rooted up. Many older trees have been lopped and mutilated in such a way as to ruin the beauty of their growth.

It is a sad story, and one which does damage to the generally good name of those who picnic in the open during the summer months.

We cannot be too careful when we pitch our tent, or spread out the tea basket—

*Let it be said where you have been  
You keep the face of nature clean.*

## Editor's Table

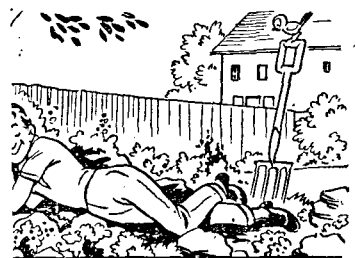
HOLIDAY-MAKERS packed London's main line stations. Must have had large trunks.

□

BEST Eggs Go Up, says a headline. Hope they won't break when they come down.

□

MOST lecturers aim to speak without notes. But don't mind being said in them.



gardeners need keeping up to job. Many get down to it.

## OAK SOAK OR ASH SPLASH!

A POPULAR rhyming proverb tells us that if the ash leafs before the oak we'll have a soak; if the oak before the ash we'll have a splash.

Now, Sir William Beach Thomas not long ago noted that in his long experience of nature study he never remembers such a long interval between the full leafing of the oak and the ash. All over the country it has been the same: the oak has been early and the ash late. So if the proverb holds good the weather this summer should be kind.

Weather proverbs have often been proved wrong, however, and particularly in this country. So perhaps it would be better, as we usually do in our whimsical climate, just to hope for the best.

—♦—

## AWAY WITH BOREDOM

A SCHOOL time-table not thought of in terms of unrelated subjects, or of examinations, was suggested recently by Mr D. R. Hardman, Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Education.

Mr Hardman's time-table would include: command of the mother tongue in speech, song, and the written words; delight in the ability to use numbers; the satisfaction of curiosity about the living earth and all things on it which arises from the study of the general principles of elementary science; delight in the arts; the satisfaction of that urge of young life to achieve a co-ordination between hand and brain, which is called crafts; and lastly the inculcation of a sense of service in the school.

"It is along these lines that our best teachers are making the assault on that boredom which is the source of so much restlessness and evil in modern society," concluded Mr Hardman.

—♦—

## The Gospels In Modern Dress

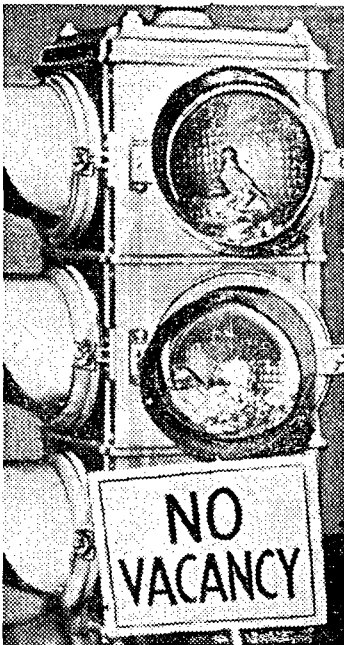
PUBLISHING the Gospels in the form of the popular illustrated magazine, price sixpence, seems at first a startling idea, but this is the bold new venture of the British and Foreign Bible Society.

First of the series is *The Man in the Street: Good News according to St Matthew*. It has been prepared by John Stirling, who produced, *The Bible For Today*.

Illustrations have been carefully selected both to make the Biblical background real and to relate the book to modern life.

It is indeed a very attractive edition of St Matthew's Gospel. It is the Authorised Version except that text numbers are not used and some capital letters are dropped, to bring it into line with modern usage.

We are confident that the Society has achieved its object, to bring the Gospel before modern Man in a readable and attractive form.



## Floodlit Flats

These cheeky sparrows have used traffic lights in Denver, Colorado, as a block of flats. Perhaps the owners of the Green flat are away on holiday and left the notice to discourage other squatters.

## Endurance Tests

HUNDREDS of Servicemen have undergone tests to discover just how much human beings can endure in certain conditions, and a report recently issued by the Medical Research Council gives the results. It is called *Researches on the Measurement of Human Performance*.

One of the aims of the tests was to find out how long Navy men could remain vigilant on look-out and listening tasks in tropical waters. Other men carried out instructions sitting alone in a wooden cabin and looking at a moving pointer for two hours; this helped to decide the length of watch for R A F radar operators on anti-submarine patrol.

Some men took Benzedrine tablets during this test so that the effects of decreasing fatigue could be studied, and in "environmental stress" tests some men raised and lowered a 15-pound weight in time to a metronome until they were completely exhausted.

The Medical Research Council state that from these studies it has become possible for experimental psychology to find assured answers to questions concerning the endurance of people under certain conditions.

## UNSTUCK!

To give continuity to his weekly children's addresses, a church minister created a character named Bill; but after several months, thinking the children had tired of Bill and his adventures, he conveniently shipped him off to Australia and started other stories.

The children clamoured for more stories of Bill, however. So one Sunday morning the minister announced the great news of a letter from Bill, and proceeded to give an account of his exploits Down-Under.

After the service the minister found one of the boys waiting for him, and asked if there was anything he could be helped with. "Yes, sir," was the reply, "please can I have the Australian stamp?"

# FREEDOM'S CAPITAL

THE City of Washington is this year celebrating the 150th anniversary of its life as the seat of the United States Government; and on July 19 the National Symphony Orchestra, with Clarence Raybould conducting, is giving a concert of British music from a barge moored to a bank of the Potomac—"a salute from your Government to ours in this historic anniversary year," as a director of the Celebrations Commission calls it.

Washington is a city specially designed as a capital. Soon after the American Revolution it was felt that the Supreme Government of the new States should have a city of its own, and not be centred in some existing city, such as New York. This need was probably emphasised in 1783 when Congress—the American Parliament—was temporarily driven out of Philadelphia by American soldiers who claimed that they had not been paid for their war services—a very undignified position for any Government.

## Frenchman's Plan

At first there was much disagreement about the site of the new capital, but at last one was chosen on the banks of the Potomac River, and fittingly called Washington. A French engineer named L'Enfant was employed to make a plan, and it was his vision that made the Washington of today such a precious city.

Progress on the building of the new city, however, was very slow, and when Congress moved there from Philadelphia in 1800 it still existed only on paper. It was described by its many critics as a "city of streets without houses," and as "a mudhole almost equal to the great Serbonian bog" (a proverbial marsh in Egypt); and an American Secretary of the Treasury wrote, "I don't see how the Members of Congress can possibly secure lodgings unless they will consent to live 10 or 20 crowded in one house."

In 1814 came calamity. The British, at war with the U.S., raided the unfledged city and set fire to the Capitol and the President's house—acts of vandalism which caused indignation in Britain as well as in America. But Britain may be said to have made some amends later when James Smithson, a British scientist, left a fortune to the U.S. Government to found a scientific institution, a bequest which resulted in Washington's famous Smithsonian Institution.

After the British retired in 1814 the Americans repaired the

damage, and to hide the marks of the fire painted the President's house white, henceforth to be known as the White House. The growth of Washington continued slowly. The American people themselves seemed uninterested in their Capital until the Civil War broke out in 1861 and a Southern leader boasted that the Confederate flag would soon be flying over the Capital. This roused the North and Washington was strongly fortified and held.

Afterwards, great strides were made towards turning Washington into a magnificent city, and it is difficult to realise that once there were marshes and mean huts where the domed Capitol and other splendid buildings now stand.

The U.S. capital is not a city of skyscrapers, for there is a law that no building may be higher than the great Washington Monument, a towering marble-faced column 555 feet high.

Oddly enough, the citizens of Washington have no votes, and often complain of this. The city and surrounding district is called the District of Columbia and is a kind of tiny State on its own. Even its purely local affairs are governed by Congress.

In spite of this, the noble city of Washington is in our times a symbol of the power of the freedom-loving peoples, and Freedom is the theme of the entire programme of celebrations.

## Fifty Years at School

IN 1899 Gwen Reeby was one of the first scholars at the newly-opened Barnsole Road School, Gillingham; a year later Arthur Wickham came to the school as a new boy. At the end of this term they will be leaving the school for the first and last time.

After they had finished their schooling Miss Reeby and Mr Wickham remained at Barnsole Road, first as pupil teachers, and then on the teaching staff. They are now to retire.



## OUR HOMELAND

Tudor gables in Leicester Square, Penhurst, Kent

## Great Day For the Huguenots

NEXT Sunday, July 23, marks a great occasion for the Huguenots in this country; for exactly 400 years ago Edward the Sixth gave Huguenot refugees from the Continent a charter to celebrate Protestant worship.

At first the French and Dutch shared the church of Austin Friars, but later the French built their own in Threadneedle Street; and Austin Friars remained the Dutch Church until it was destroyed by the enemy in 1940. The French church was destroyed in the Great Fire of 1663 and the congregation met in St Martin Orgar, by Cannon Street. Since 1893 they have worshipped in the red-brick church in Soho Square.

To celebrate the 400th anniversary of sanctuary in this country, the Head of the Protestant Church in France will preach at Soho Square next Sunday, and afterwards will come the unveiling of a plaque depicting the arrival of the Protestant refugees in 1550 and the signing of their charter.

Fittingly, the same day will see the laying of the foundation stone, by the Dutch Princess Irene, of the new church of Austin Friars which is to rise again on the old site. On the following day, French and Dutch Protestants will share a service at St Paul's Cathedral.

## Doncaster School's 600th Birthday

A MEMORIAL to the Old Boys of Doncaster Grammar School who fell in the last war is being unveiled this Saturday as the final ceremony of Grammar School Week, an annual event in this old Yorkshire town since 1931.

This year the week has special significance, for it commemorates the 600th anniversary of the school's opening. The earliest recorded mention of Doncaster Grammar School occurs in the York Chapter Act Book of 1350.

The present roomy school, with its airy classrooms, well-appointed laboratories, swimming bath, and concert hall, was opened by the late Archbishop Temple in 1940.

Robert Fulton was a jeweller's assistant and art student in Philadelphia, until, in 1786, he came to England. There his latent talents for engineering were developed by the Duke of Bridgewater, Earl Stanhope, and James Watt.



## Pioneers 32, ROBERT FULTON, the steamboat man

Fulton produced inventions for dredging, flax-spinning, and a substitute for canal locks. Marine engineering was his chief love, however, and as a pioneer of the steamboat he soon astonished naval circles that knew only yards and masts.



Later, in France, he designed a submarine to fire torpedoes and launched his first experimental steamboat on the Seine. But Napoleon's admirals disdained such inventions and Fulton, in disgust, returned to America.

His greatest achievement, the steamboat 'Clermont', ran from New York to Albany on August 11, 1807, a trip of 150 miles upstream, in 32 hours. Just before his death Fulton launched the first steam warship, sounding the knell of the era of sail.



## WORLD GUIDES COME TO BRITAIN

FOR several weeks relays of Rangers, Guides, and Brownies have been converging on Oxford, through every county in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, carrying 27 Messages of Good Will for the overseas Guides at the great World Conference of Guides.

The girls have used every kind of transport—planes, trains, cars, horses, farm carts, tractors, bicycles, and even roller skates! The Messages are coming to Oxford along Roman roads, old coach roads, the Pilgrims' Way, canals, and through the air.

Each Message is on a scroll carried in a waterproof case. In

towns and villages parties of Britain's 400,000 Guides have welcomed their Messages of greeting to their sisters in distant lands.

All the Messages will arrive at Oxford on July 29, and that evening, at a giant outdoor camp fire at Cheney Farm, Headington Hill, Oxford, Princess Margaret will present to each Guide delegate the Message she is to take home for the Guides of her own country. Afterwards there will be singing and fireworks. Truly an inspiring occasion.

This 13th World Conference of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts is the first to be held in our country for 20 years. It is under the direct patronage of the Queen, Princess Elizabeth, and the Princess Royal, who is to open the Conference on July 21 at St Hugh's College, Oxford, where it will continue until July 31.

It will be attended by two delegates and two visitors from 23 countries that are members of the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts. In addition there are to be visitors from five "Tenderfoot" countries—those where Guiding does not yet qualify for full membership.

Lady Baden-Powell, the World Chief Guide, will take a prominent part in the Conference, and the Chairman is Mrs Swift Newton, a well-known Girl Scout leader in the United States.

The theme of the Conference

is *This Changing World*, and the delegates will discuss how best the world's 2,500,000 Guides can play their part in it. As well as discussions, the delegates will visit places of interest near Oxford, and see displays of national dancing, concerts, and film shows dealing with the theme of the Conference. The greatest thrill of all for them will come on July 27 when they are to be received by the Queen at Buckingham Palace.

These Guides from many countries will take home with them a renewed faith in their Movement's glorious motto: A Guide is a Friend to All.

## MURRAY RIVER STEAMERS

AUSTRALIA's longest river, the Murray, which winds through Victoria, New South Wales, and South Australia, is again becoming a home for river boats after almost half a century of inactivity.

Early this century many paddle steamers used to bring large loads of wood and passengers along the river, but, with the expansion of the railway, business slumped and the boats ceased running.

Today the Australian wants to learn more of this great river, so a company has built the first of a number of boats for tourists. She will be called the *Coonawarra*, which in the Aboriginal language means black swan.

## Showing the Flag in Spain

A LEICESTER headmaster has bought a second-hand bus to take 26 of his boys on a holiday adventure in Spain. They leave home on July 28.

Previously the boys have cycled in France, but Spain is too far for biking, so Mr C. Anson-Smith, headmaster of Rushey Mead Secondary School, has bought a 1934 Leyland double-decker bus.

The trip will cost each boy £20 and £100 has been raised by the Parents' Association, one of whose members, Mr R. E. Page, will take turns with the headmaster at the wheel.

At Burgos the boys will stay for four days and will probably play demonstration games of football and cricket. Then they will take their bus over the mountains to Salamanca, where for four days they are to be the guests of the University. At Madrid they will take part in a wireless programme which is to be relayed to America.

These young ambassadors have been busy brushing up their Spanish, but they will be helped out by their Spanish master.

The bus is painted with Union Jacks—a happy way of "showing the flag."

## Elephants, Buzzards, and Other Things

THERE is an exciting account about elephants written by a man who has lived and worked with them for years, Lt-Col J. H. Williams, OBE, in the August issue of *World Digest*.

Another man, Harold Penrose, tells how he has flown round, above, and almost amongst buzzards as they have soared and cruised around our coasts. In this way he has learned many interesting things about these great hawks. There is another fascinating nature article on spiders and one concerning a new sort of lens which has revealed secrets of the stars.

There is something to appeal to every member of the family in this issue of Britain's most interesting magazine, on sale everywhere this Friday, one shilling.

## BARON MUNCHAUSEN—Picture Version of his Astonishing Adventures (4)



The Baron related his adventures when fighting for the Russians against the Turks. He went to the war on his fine new charger which, judging from the story he told about it, was a truly remarkable animal. In pursuing the Turks, the Baron said, he galloped far ahead of the Hussars he commanded and rode alone into a town through which the Turks had retreated.



The enemy had disappeared, so he halted to give his trusty steed a drink at a fountain. After a time he was puzzled because the horse drank without ceasing and, looking round, he was amazed to see that the back part of it was missing! He realised that the portcullis of the town-gate must have been let down just as he rode in—cutting the horse clean in two!



Half a horse may be better than no horse, but the Baron hastened back to the town-gate, riding the front half of his charger, and, as he had suspected, he found the back half of his horse on the ground, still alive and quivering. Fortunately the blacksmith of the Hussars, a skilful man indeed, was able to cobbler the two halves together again.



This versatile blacksmith used sprigs of laurel, which happened to be growing nearby, to sew the two parts together. "The wound healed," said the Baron; "and, what could only have happened to so glorious a horse, the sprigs took root in his body and grew up, and formed a bower over me; so that I could ride in the shade of my own and my horse's laurels."

In next week's instalment the Baron has an extraordinary musical adventure



The first of a new series of . . .

□ ?????????????? COMPLETE STORIES ?????????????? □

# THE TRAIL of the GREY WETHER

□ ?????????????? by GARRY HOGG ?????????????? □

Many of our readers will already have met Jonty, Nat, and Pen in *Sealed Orders* and *The Secret of Hollow Hill*. In this new series the author of those books describes more of the children's adventures; and the CN hopes that some boys and girls will make similar journeys and find the same interesting things at the end of them.

"HERE's a letter, addressed to all three of us!" Jonty called out, rushing into the breakfast-room. "Which of us had better open it, d'you think?" He looked anxiously at his elder sister and brother, Pen and Nat. "Nathaniel's the eldest," said Aunt Kitty, with whom they were spending part of their holidays in Oxford. "On the other hand, Penelope—"

"Jonathan—I beg your pardon—Jonty is the youngest," said Pen. "I think he should."

"Good-oh," said Jonty quickly, seizing the knife he had been using for spreading marmalade. "Here goes, then!"

They crowded round him while he slit the envelope, and then cried out with one voice: "Uncle Rodney!"

"Bet there's something exciting in it, then," said Nat. "There usually is. Remember—"

"There are verses in it, anyway," Pen interrupted. "That's always a good sign!"

Sure enough, it was what they called a "Trail Letter." The most important part was the set of verses containing hidden clues to guide them to some secret and exciting destination. They usually got at least one such envelope, wherever they might happen to be staying, each holiday.

BREAKFAST over, they went out and sat on a sunlit wall to talk it over.

"No maps to be used; this time," Nat remarked. "Pity. I like using maps."

"That means it's not a long-distance trip, anyway," Pen said. "Praps we'll get one of those later."

"Hope so," said Jonty. "Personally, I've a profound hankering after extensive expeditions—"

Pen looked at her young brother in surprise. "What weird phrases you do get hold of, Jonty!"

Nat was re-reading the verses: *See, in the market-place he stands, He who was King of all these lands More than a thousand years ago; You'll know the tale; he burnt the cakes*

*The goodwife made; amends he makes Thereafter, when he quells the foe.*

*And now upon him turn your back And take a westward-running track*

*A mile or so past Sparsholt Field; Blow winds and crack your cheeks, rage, blow,*

Old Shakespeare wrote. But—DO NOT SO:

*Grey Wether won't to violence yield!*

"Well, anyhow," said Jonty, "that's easy enough. King Alfred. I know the cakes story."

"Anything to do with food, of course—" his sister began.

"Later he had a Round Table," Jonty continued. "Lancelot and all the knights sat round it—"

"... Eating cakes he hadn't burnt," Nat finished for him. "Really, Jonty!" He looked at the first line again. "Now, what market-place is it?"

"Since he says it's a short day trip this time," Pen said, "it won't be terribly far from here. There's a guide-book called *Fifteen Miles Round Oxford* lying about somewhere. Shall I find it?"

"Hi, what's that?" exclaimed Jonty as, a few minutes later, they were flicking the pages over. It was a photograph of Wantage market-place. There was a statue in it, and it had the caption: King Alfred The Great's Statue.

"Good - oh - good - oh - good-oh!" Jonty hopped from one foot to the other. "Come on, everybody. Bikes!"

Nat grinned. "Easy does it," he said. "Sandwiches, first, if that's all right with Aunt Kitty. Then we'll be independent."

Twenty minutes later they were on the road. Little more than an hour after that they were running into Wantage.

"Well," said Jonty, "what's wrong with this, I'd like to know?" He had propped his foot on the pedestal which carried the statue of the king. "He who was King of all these lands," he quoted. "Now what?"

"Take a 'westward-running' track," said Nat. "That's what the verse says." He glanced at his wrist-watch. "Nearly mid-day. Allow an hour for Summer Time, and west—" he swung round, holding the watch horizontally, with the sun shining into it roughly midway between the hour hand and 12 o'clock—"west's pretty well plumb over there."

THEY set off on their cycles, riding briskly until they were clear of the town. Pen had remarked that Sparsholt Field must be fairly big to have a name of its own, so it would be well out in the country. They would get clear of Wantage, and then begin to make inquiries.

"Sparsholt Field?" a man on the roadside repeated, when they had asked him. "Over yonder, where you see the big barn." He pointed across the fields to the

left of the lane they were following. "Beyond those trees."

"Thanks," Jonty said. "Come on, everybody. We're getting 'warm.'"

He had taken the lead and was now setting a cracking pace, a thin knife-edge of dust rising from his rear tyre. Nat was muttering to himself the words "Grey Wether," and shaking his head. "I wish I knew what it meant," he said. "And why it doesn't yield to violence."

"Probably it's an Oldest Inhabitant!" Pen suggested.

"Here he comes, then!" Jonty shouted back over his shoulder. The others looked up to see an elderly and respectable gentleman cycling slowly towards them.

"Ssssh, Jonty," Pen whispered.

NAT dismounted and, as the elderly gentleman drew level, asked him if he could direct them to Grey Wether.

"Which one?" he asked.

Nat was taken aback. "Why," he said, "is there more than one? I thought—"

"There are thousands of 'em," the man said. "Great grey stones, all shapes and sizes, lying about on the chalk hill slopes and fields. Mostly a bit farther west than this, out towards Avebury. We call 'em Grey Wethers because they look not unlike old rams lying about on the grass."

"Aren't there any near here, then?" Nat went on, disappointed.

"There's one," was the answer. "The famous one. The one they call the 'Blowing Stone.' That's only a mile ahead of you. You'll see it under a tree in a cottage garden."

They thanked him, almost too excited to speak. "Blowing Stone"; they remembered what the verse said about "blowing." Ten minutes later they were at the cottage; and there, under a tree, was a curiously-shaped boulder, grey and weather-worn.

"What does it do?" Jonty asked, puzzled.

"That depends," said the woman who had come out of the cottage to meet them. "Roars like a lion—if you blow rightly into it. Some can do it; some can't. It's a matter of knack."

"Here goes," said Jonty. "You'll see." He blew into the small hole till his cheeks were scarlet, his eyes like lobster's eyes, but no sound came from the stone. He puffed till he looked like an outsize bull-frog. Then Pen remembered the "crack your cheeks" of the verse, and touched him on the shoulder. She had a go herself. Then Nat tried. All three of them failed to get a single whisper from it, let alone a lion's roar.

"There must be a knack in it," Pen said. "Can it really be done?"

THE woman called over her shoulder, and a nine-year-old girl came running out. Standing on tiptoe, she put her lips to the hole in the stone, and the others nearly jumped out of their shoes at the tremendous roar that filled the air.

"It used to stand up there on the Ridge Way," the woman said, smiling at their discomfiture. "King Alfred used it to rally his men. It could be heard over the whole of Wessex. Or, so they say."

"I should jolly well think it could," Jonty said. "Probably in

Continued on page 10

**SAMMY SHUTEYE AND THE BEST SLICE**

GET THAT LORRY LOADED, I'M OFF FOR A SNACK.

THESE BAGS ARE SOFT, I'LL HAVE A NAP.

TO GOLF COURSE

EVERY TIME I HIT THE BALL, I SLICE IT!

SLICE! GIVE ME A SLICE OF MARS! I'D PICK UP PYTHON'S FOR A MARS

ONE SACK A SECOND! HOW'S THAT FOR SPEED?

NIFTY WORK, MY LAD, HERE'S AN EXTRA TEN BOB

ALL THE BEST GOLFERS SLICE A MARS

CACKLING CADDIES! AREN'T MARS MARVELLOUS!

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## TRAIL OF THE GREY WETHER

Continued from page 9

Land's End and John O'Groats, too!" He looked with mingled admiration and envy at the small girl. "How did she do it? I couldn't."

"It's just knack," said the woman. "You have to keep on trying."

It was Pen who succeeded first. They had all tried a dozen times, and then rubbed their lips and smoothed their swollen cheeks and sat down defeated. Then Pen said: "I'll have one more try. Only one. I doubt whether my face will ever be the right shape again, anyway!"

THEY watched Pen bend over the rough unyielding stone which kept its secret so well. She pursed up her lips, making her mouth small, as if she was holding an orange-pip in it. And suddenly, to everyone's surprise, there was a deep-throated roar from the back of the stone.

"Jolly good, Pen!" Jonty shouted, swallowing his disappointment at not being the first to extract the roar from the stone. "Now me!"

He made the most comical faces in his attempt to succeed as Pen had done, and was at last rewarded by a tremendous blast.

Not to be outdone, Nat took his turn, and he, too, at last found out the secret of the Blowing Stone, the Grey Wether, who would not yield to violence but responded to cunning and perseverance.

"Blow 'Come to the cook-house door, boys,' if you can," said Jonty. "Personally, after that I'm ready for my sandwiches, and anybody else's as well. Not to mention a bottle of pop, if I can lay my hands on one!"

Jonty, Nat, and Pen will be on a fresh trail next week. Make sure of reading about their adventure by ordering your C N now.

## Girl of 10,000 Years Ago

THE painting of a girl belonging to a mysterious race living about 10,000 years ago, in Southern Rhodesia has survived to the present day. The picture, showing her with hair reaching nearly to her ankles, was found on a rock near Umtali by a naturalist from Cape Town, Mr Carp, who discussed it in South Africa recently.

The figure of the girl, he said, is unlike any of the crisp-haired Bantu or Bushman natives, and a study of it may tell us more about the race who built Zimbabwe and similar ruined places in the Colony.

## MORE FLOODS IN AUSTRALIA

FOR the second time in less than twelve months, much of the eastern seaboard of New South Wales, Australia, has been flood-bound.

Owing to torrential, unceasing rains for many days, the Hunter, Manning, Macleay, and Clarence Rivers have burst their banks and have flooded the surrounding districts to a depth of twelve feet in some parts, writes a C N correspondent who has recently visited this stricken area.

Over 38,000 people have been thrown out of work and over 10,000 rendered homeless; and livestock and crops have suffered.

## BEDTIME CORNER

### The Happy Land

THE waves curl over the golden sand  
As we rush for the beach of the Happy Land;  
Where shells and pebbles are sweets and chocs,  
While the cliffs and boulders are peppermint rocks.  
We dig in the sand, we paddle and play,  
And ride in a ship which sails round the bay.

There are orangeade fountains; mysterious caves,  
Swift miniature speed-boats which cleave the waves,  
We have ices and chocolates, strawberries with cream,  
Everything seems like a wonderful dream.  
And through the whole of our glorious day  
All things are free, there is nothing to pay.  
And so, of course, with a sigh we perceive,  
We have been to the land of "Make Believe."

### Reward of Patience

JOHN WESLEY once heard his father talking to his mother about her patience with a dull servant.

"That is the twentieth time you have given those instructions to that man," he said.

"It would have been foolish of me to have stopped at the nineteenth," replied his mother, "for then I would have lost the reward of all my labour."

### A Prayer

WE thank Thee, O Father, for this beautiful world, and for all the lovely things which help to bless our lives—for paintings and noble buildings, music and singing, books to read and poetry to learn; we thank Thee for the flowers and trees, birds and beasts, the glory of the rising and setting Sun.

Especially do we thank Thee for the love of parents and friends, and for all the things that make life good and beautiful.

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## CN Bookshelf



### After the Rebellion

Blade of the Rapier, by Leslie Morley (Hutchinson, 5s.)

THIS exciting story of the reign of James the Second after the failure of the Monmouth Rebellion introduces Anthony Blade, Captain of the Rapier. Under the disguise of a bored dandy Blade helps many rebels fleeing from the king's soldiers to escape aboard his ship, from which they continue to harry their enemies.

### Heritage

Explorer's England, by Martin Thornhill (Skeffington, 12s 6d).

SIGNPOSTS and inn-signs, place names and village greens, weathervanes and venerable trees, old customs and ancient churches—all these things and many more besides have enlivened the author's journeys in this green and pleasant land. His genuine enthusiasm for every Englishman's heritage makes him an entertaining guide.

### Schooldays

A New Girl at Maltby, by Jessie L. Herbertson (Jarrolds, 6s.).

THIS school story brings together a number of girls with sharply-defined tastes. Aline Fellowes, the new girl, finds herself handicapped at first as she is starting her schooldays rather late. However, she is gradually absorbed into the school life and makes a great success of it.

### In the Jungle

The Rain Forest, by Armstrong Sperry (Bodley Head, 7s 6d).

UNEXPLORED jungle in New Guinea seems an uninviting place for a 14-year-old boy, but Chad Powell, whose father is seeking a Bird of Paradise, finds exciting adventures there. The author's excellent illustrations help to convey the atmosphere of the mysterious forest.

### Young Africa

Salifu the Detective, by C. J. Neville (Macmillan, 6s.).

THIS exciting yarn has an unusual hero. He is a 14-year-old African boy, Salifu, who longs to join the Gold Coast Police. At first his wish seems far from fulfilment, but a crime is committed in his district, and he plays a big part in tracking down the culprit.

### Other Books Received

THE Young Traveller in Switzerland, by Mariann Meier (Phoenix House, 7s 6d).

Worrals Investigates, by Captain W. E. Johns (Lutterworth Press, 6s.).

Cornish Mystery, by Derek McCulloch (Sidgwick & Jackson, 6s.).

Coin Collecting, by J. G. Milne, C. H. V. Sutherland, and J. D. A. Thompson (Oxford University Press, 8s 6d).

Water Supply Today, by John Bowman (Oxford University Press, 7s 6d).

Great Engines and Their Inventors, by G. S. Ranshaw (Burke, 10s 6d).

The Country Lover's Companion—The wayfarer's guide to the varied scenery of Britain and the people who live and work in the countryside (Odhams Press, 15s.).

## GLADYS, DUMBO, AND IG

By Our Zoo Correspondent

DEMAND for elephant rides at London Zoo lately has been so keen that the authorities are constantly receiving requests from visitors that Rajah and Ramee, the two animals at present trying to cope with the "traffic," should be reinforced by the young elephant Dumbo. However, these requests are not likely to be granted just yet; for several reasons, chief of which is that Dumbo, who arrived by air from Assam early last year, is too young.

"Although Dumbo has grown wonderfully at the Zoo, weighs now well over one thousand pounds, and stands about four feet high at the shoulder, she is still only about two years old and not nearly strong enough to do regular daily duty out on the official 'ride,'" Mr G. S. Cansdale, the superintendent, told me. "At the moment she is still learning the business of carrying small children in the Children's Zoo."

Is it possible for an animal, kindly treated, to become "too tame"? Experience gained in the Children's Zoo suggests that it certainly is. A case in point is Gladys, the senior llama, who lately has shown signs of becoming a "public nuisance."

Born in the enclosure a few years ago, Gladys has grown up there, and has been so pampered and petted by young visitors that she now takes extraordinary liberties with them, even rifling their food baskets with an audacity exceeding that of the boldest goats.

Complaints of Gladys's conduct have recently become very numerous, and in some cases there does seem to be justification for them. The latest was made by a woman visitor who, about to eat a banana during her lunch, had the fruit snatched from her hand by the importunate Gladys. Approaching softly from behind, the llama just leaned over the visitor's shoulder and took the banana, almost from her mouth!

"It wasn't an isolated case," Miss Peggy Mann, one of the hostesses, told me. "A week or two ago a little girl set her food basket down on a bench beside her. When she looked round, it was empty. Gladys had taken the lot!"

THERE are, of course, many tame animals in the Gardens, and one of the most interesting just now is little Ig, a baby iguana who came not long ago to the reptile house, having been flown over from South America. The Zoo has long had iguanas on exhibition, but until now none that could be called tame. This is because these five-foot-long lizards nearly always arrive as mature specimens, well past the "taming" stage.

Ig, however, is only a foot long, and little more than a baby. He is quite harmless, and attempts are now being made to bring him up tame. As part of the treatment, keepers handle Ig daily, and invariably bring him out of his cage for "petting" by visitors, who thoroughly enjoy feeding him on his favourite titbit—lettuce.

Ig's normal diet consists of locusts. C.H.

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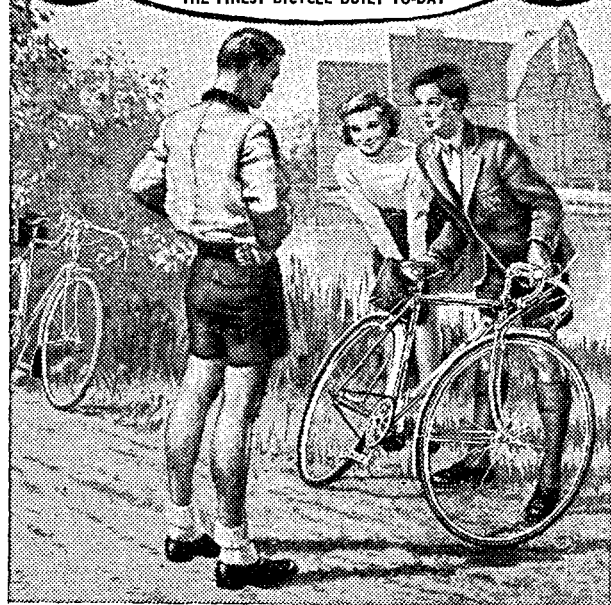
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# THE BRAN TUB

## That Thursday Feeling

A young man was applying for a job, and he had to fill in a long questionnaire. One of the questions was: "Have you ever been bankrupt?"

The young man wrote: "Yes; every Thursday."

## A Word Square

If the six-letter words with the following meanings are written one under the other we get a perfect word-square:

1. One who solves.
2. A bird.
3. Part of a door.
4. A kind of offering.
5. A number.
6. To give in.

Answer next week

## Only a Red Herring

THERE are several variations of this phrase—"To draw a red herring across one's path," or "It turned out to be a red herring," and so on. The expression means to lead or be led astray, such as when a clever crook lays a false trail to put the police off his scent. In the 17th century there was a sport in which a smoked and salted herring was dragged across the fox's path, after which foxhounds were set to follow the trail. If the dogs happened to pick up the scent of the herring trail it was liable to divert them from Reynard's scent, and the huntsmen would therefore be chasing a "red herring."



Can you do  
2 good turns  
at once?

Mother sometimes gives you an odd copper when you do a job for her and this is how you can turn one good turn into two and help the N.S.P.C.C. to help unhappy children. Save up these coppers and, when you've collected 2/6, send it in with the form below, which you should cut out and fill in. This will make you a member of the League of Pitt, the Children's Branch of the N.S.P.C.C. The League will then send you a Blue Bird Badge to keep and wear and, on loan, a Blue Egg in which to put your League savings. You can be sure that every penny you earn or collect will help the N.S.P.C.C. to make some poor, ill-treated boy or girl happy. That's a worthwhile target, isn't it?



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Please enrol me as a Member. I enclose P.O. for 2/6.

NAME.....

ADDRESS.....

PLEASE USE BLOCK CAPITALS

## CHEMISTRY

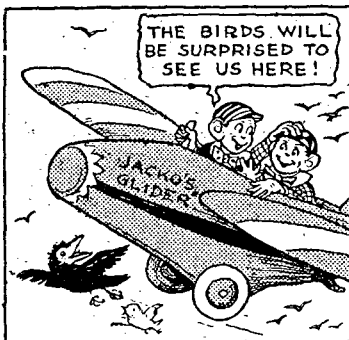
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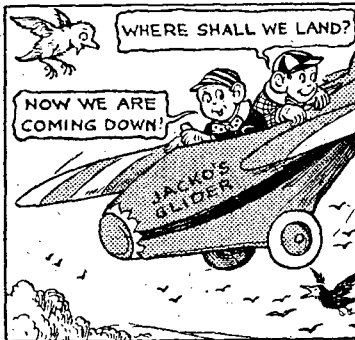
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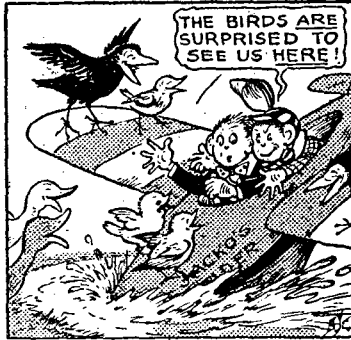
## Jacko and Chimp Come Down to Earth



In a rather unusual glider Jacko and Chimp were enjoying themselves.



Their piloting perhaps would not have earned the applause of an expert.



And certainly their method of landing could not be found in any book.

## Dog-Eared ?

A YOUNG Post Office worker met one of his friends in the street.

"Oh! I'm glad we met," said the friend. "Seeing you reminds me that I have to get a dog licence."

## Curtilment

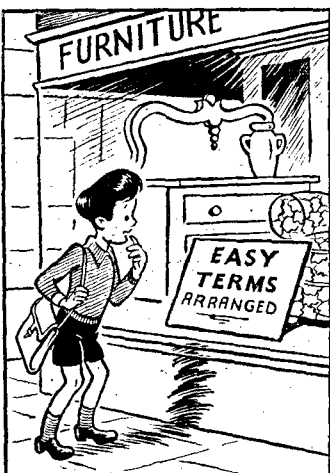
COMPLETE, a privilege I am;

Curtailed, I on the altar stand;

Curtailed again I am a head; Once more, and I'm in Ireland; A last curtilment being made, A parent then is near at hand.

Answer next week

## RODDY



"Gosh! I wish they would arrange an easy term for me!"

## Do You Know That . . . ?

ARGENTINA is easily the most important producer and exporter of linseed. The seed is crushed, providing oil for paint; the residue makes cake for feeding cattle.

THE atmospheric pressure at the top of Mt Everest is about one-third of that at sea level.

THE population of Para, which stands on the Equator at the mouth of the Amazon, is 236,000. Further up-river, in the heart of the Selvas, is Manaus, 121,000. In both cities there are modern hotels, fine squares, and paved streets.

MOST seaside places experience two high tides a day. Southampton has four high tides owing to the position of the Isle of Wight.

JAMES BAY, a portion of Hudson Bay, is 300 miles long and 100 miles wide, yet it is so shallow that it is possible to touch the sea bottom with an oar from a boat even in the middle of the bay.

## Farmer Gray Explains

A BIRD of Mystery. In the gathering dusk moths fluttered to and fro. From the direction of the Big-woods came an odd churring sound.

"It's a nightjar," said Farmer Gray, in answer to Don's inquiring glance. "They are mysterious birds, more often heard than seen. Nightjars have remarkably wide beaks, fringed with stiff bristles; in addition, their tongues are very sticky. These features assist them in obtaining their food, which is mainly moths and beetles. Like the swifts, nightjars have very weak legs, and they cannot walk or hop as other birds do. Nightjars are about eleven inches long; their plumage is grey, barred and streaked with black and various shades of brown."

## Riddle-my-Name

My first is in lamp, not in candle;

My second's in coal, not in coke;

My third is in slipper, not sandal;

My fourth is in jest and in joke;

My fifth is in folk and in people;

My sixth is in letter, not mail;

My seventh's in spire, not in steeple;

My last is in steam, not in sail.

Although the answer's her, not him,

You'll find some help in "O, rare Jim!"

Answer next week

## How Far?

ASK a friend to solve this little problem:

An explorer arrived at a point 500 miles from the North Pole where he was forced by a mountain range to travel 200 miles due west. How far was his new position from the Pole?

The answer is, of course, 500 miles.

## Quack, Quack

A LIGHT-HEARTED batsman named Buck,

Would hit out and trust to his luck.

Grand sixes and fours

Sometimes earned him applause, But often his score was a duck.

## The Farmer's Boy

A TOWN-DWELLER was engaged in conversation with a farm labourer, who mentioned that he was 64 years old.

"You are remarkably fit for a man of 64," said the town-dweller. "At what age did your father die?"

"Oh, father's not dead," said the labourer; "he's over there in the garden reading the paper to grandfather."

## On Hanging Pictures

WHEN hanging a picture try to avoid placing it opposite a window, or a door, through which light enters. Light on the glass obscures the picture. Oil paintings should never be hung over a mantelpiece as the heat from the fire is liable to crack the paint and thus ruin the picture. Always hang your pictures at eye level so that they may be seen without having to bend or stand on tiptoe.

## Last Week's Answers

King, Queen, Knaves: William, Eleanor, Variants.

Songs Gone Wrong: Barbara Allen, Annie Laurie, Michael Finnigan, Bobby Shaftoe, John Peel. (In the code B became R; C became S; D became T, and so on)

H	E	L	P
A	E	O	N
L	A	M	P
E	O	U	S
E	N	L	I
A	M	A	P
B	E	E	R
E	R	A	S
T	Y	R	E



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